

Remarks:

These remarks are responsive to the Office action dated July 28, 2004. Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 1-39 remained pending in the application.

Applicant initially notes, with appreciation, that the Examiner has allowed claim 38, and has indicated that claims 3, 7, 10, 11, 21-25 and 35 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8, 9, 12-20, 26-34, 36, 37 and 39, however, stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Croft et al. (US 6,078,826). The Examiner also objects to claims 17 and 18 in view of a typographical error, whereby the phrase "that the printing device" is repeated in claim 17.

Although applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), in order to further prosecution of the present application, and in view of the Examiner's indication of allowability of various of applicant's claims, applicant has cancelled claims 1, 2, 4, 17-19, 26, 27, 34, 36, 37 and 39 without prejudice. Applicant also has amended claims 3, 10, 21-25 and 35 to place such claims in independent form (as per the Examiner's indication that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form). Claims 5-9, 11-16, 20 and 28-33 (as amended) depend from such newly independent claims, and thus are allowable for at least the same reasons as the claims from which they now depend. Claim 38 has been indicated allowable in its original form. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) thus are rendered moot.


Applicant believes that this application is now in condition for allowance, in view of the above amendments and remarks. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowability covering the pending

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claims. If the Examiner has any questions, or if a telephone interview would in any way advance prosecution of the application, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner J. Lieu, Group Art Unit 2636, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, at facsimile number (703) 872-9306 on October 28, 2004.



Christie A. Doolittle

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